

Strengthening the One Stop System	Thursday, August 21, 2:00 pm eastern	Register Now!
<u>Discussion Questions</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What opportunities do the One Stop provisions under Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) present to the workforce system and customers it serves? 2. WIOA now requires that State Boards focus on continuous improvement of the One-Stop delivery system and develop One-Stop standards and a certification process. What are your ideas in terms of guidance that will support states in carrying out this mandatory role? 3. Employment services are required to be co-located with One-Stops under WIOA, and TANF is now a required partner. What opportunities and challenges should DOL consider in drafting regulations and guidance to ensure the active involvement/participation from these and other required partners? 4. WIOA includes provisions about One-Stop infrastructure funding and about providing funding or noncash resources for other common costs related to center operation and the costs for providing career services. What should be included in guidance that will help states and local areas to implement these provisions? 5. WIOA now provides that UI services to be provided through the one-stop delivery system include both information and assistance in claims filing. The two words “and assistance” are new and imply a more affirmative responsibility to assist claimants in the claims filing process. What input do states and LWIBs have for ETA to consider when drafting guidance on defining “and assistance” with filing UI claims? 6. States and local areas are encouraged to improve customer service and program management by integrating intake, case management, and reporting systems. How can DOL support states and local areas in these efforts? 7. What kinds of information and technical assistance from DOL do states and local areas need to implement the One-Stop service delivery provisions under WIOA? 8. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today? 		
Job-Driven Training for Adults and Dislocated Workers	Friday, August 22, 2:00 pm eastern	Register Now!
<u>Discussion Questions</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A key component of both the Job-Driven Agenda and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is employer engagement and satisfaction. Under WIA, have you developed any promising practices for collecting this information? Have you developed any mechanisms to gauge if training provided aligns with the employer’s needs? Are there any common challenges that should be considered in developing guidance? 2. WIOA collapses intensive and core services into the single category of “career services.” Under WIA, did the separate categories of “core” and “intensive” services create any barriers or challenges? Are there any potential challenges or benefits with the new combined “career 		

services”? Will this change have an impact on how services are provided?

3. WIOA and the Job Driven Agenda strongly emphasize work-based learning models including OJT, Registered Apprenticeship, and transitional jobs. OJT contracts often are perceived as overly complicated and challenging to develop. What has been your experience? Have you identified any promising practices that have facilitated the implementation of work-based learning? Have you experienced any other challenges with OJT or other work-based learning strategies, such as transitional jobs, paid internships, or Registered Apprenticeships?
4. WIOA provides additional procurement vehicles for training, including pay for performance contracts, customized training, and direct contracts with higher education. These additional flexibilities are intended to provide greater access to training, which aligns with the job-driven vision. Do you have any previous exposure to or experience with these procurement approaches? Do you foresee any challenges with their implementation?
5. WIOA provides authority for local boards to transfer 100 percent of funds between the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. What are some of the potential advantages and disadvantages of the increased transfer authority?
6. WIOA and the job-driven vision both emphasize the importance of high quality training. To help ensure the quality of training, WIOA has strengthened eligible training provider requirements, such as performance reporting for all participants in the program of study and costs associated with such training. What are potential implementation challenges associated with these changes? Where is technical assistance most needed?
7. WIOA significantly broadens allowable statewide activities to include: sectorial and industry cluster strategies and partnerships; career pathway programs; microenterprise and entrepreneurial training; use of direct and prior learning assessments to provide credit for experience; development of common intake procedures; and several other strategies that help to align activities. To what degree are these activities already taking place? Where is technical assistance and/or guidance most needed?
8. What other changes to adult and/or dislocated worker service delivery does WIOA introduce that create new opportunities or challenges? What challenges at the federal or state level should DOL consider in developing guidance?
9. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today?

Integrated Performance Reporting and the ETPL

Monday, August 25,
2:00 pm eastern

Register Now!

Discussion Questions

1. WIOA increases accountability and information for job seekers, employers, and the public. What opportunities and challenges do the provisions of section 116 on performance accountability present for states and local areas?
2. What technical assistance will be most useful to states and local to prepare for successful implementation of common performance measures? And for new state and local performance

reports?

3. What ideas do you have for the Department to consider in developing regulations or guidance on accountability and transparency?
4. WIOA allows the Departments of Labor and Education to determine “exceptional circumstances” that might mitigate the application of a sanction for poor performance; what input might you have to identify such circumstances?
5. What should we take into consideration in defining performance failure?
6. WIOA includes several new performance measures and we would like to get your input on how we might define them, including:
 - Skills gain,
 - Effectiveness of serving employers,
 - Costs for training, and
 - Costs of career services.
7. WIOA makes available data on training providers’ performance outcomes, based upon new reporting requirements for the Eligible Training Provider List. In the dialogue box below, please share your thoughts about the following:
 - What challenges do you anticipate to making such data available? What should DOL consider in developing guidance for states and local areas?
 - Have states developed similar consumer information or “scorecards” that may provide examples or models that can be shared?
 - What technical assistance will be useful for smaller training providers to be able to comply with these new reporting requirements?
 - Will States use WRIS for the Eligible Training Provider performance reports?
8. What additional measures might States use to assess program success?
9. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today?

Consultation with Consumers, Advocacy Groups, and Direct Service Providers on Services for Individuals with Disabilities

Tuesday, August 26,
2:00 pm eastern

Register Now!

Discussion Questions

1. WIOA collapses intensive and core services into the single category of “career services.” Are there any potential challenges or benefits with the new combined “career services”? Will this change have an impact on how services are provided? Does the change present any considerations for the Department in developing guidance?
2. WIOA strengthens provisions such as meeting the non-discrimination requirements of Section 188 and applicable provisions of the ADA, requiring the AJCs to provide physical and programmatic accessibility to individuals with disabilities. What are the key challenges providing accessibility of programs, services, technology, and materials for individuals with disabilities? What role does staff training to achieve these requirements and what are the challenges to building such capacity?

3. A major trend in WIOA is the integration of services -- aligning services across multiple service delivery systems/partners through a unified plan, and performance outcomes in all core programs, including Title I of the Rehabilitation Act. What suggestions do you have that would help the public workforce system integrate these programs effectively? What challenges to you foresee and what suggestions do you have for addressing them?
4. WIOA increases individuals with disabilities' (including those with significant disabilities and other major challenges to employment) access to high quality workforce services . What are the biggest challenges to provide integrated and accessible services in new, as well as existing programs/activities, that lead to competitive, integrated employment, advancement along career pathways, and economic self-sufficiency? Do you have successful examples from your own service delivery system or other programs (e.g., TANF) that can be adapted to improve services for individuals with disabilities through the public workforce system?
5. One ongoing challenge has been that individuals with disabilities, especially non-visible disabilities, opt not to self-identify when using general service delivery systems such as the public workforce system. With all programs moving to common intake, what regulations and strategies/incentives should be provided for job seekers to self-disclose a disability? Should there be requirements placed on all participating programs representing the AJCs to create a welcoming environment for job seekers with disabilities and what might some of these approaches be?
6. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today?

The Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program	Thursday, August 28, 2:00 pm eastern	Register Now!
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Discussion Questions

1. WIOA retains the National Farmworker Jobs Program as a mandatory one-stop partner, to ensure that participants can access employment and training services from one-stop centers. What are the opportunities and challenges to increase migrant and seasonal farmworker access to services at local one-stops that the Department should consider in developing guidance?
2. What is working well in the NFJP regulations now?
3. What is not working well in the NFJP regulations now?
4. How would you like to change them, keeping in mind the WIOA changes?
5. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today?

Services to Individuals with Disabilities	Tuesday, September 2, 2:00 pm eastern	Register Now!
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Discussion Questions

1. What have been effective service delivery strategies for integrating customers with disabilities under WIA? What regulations or supports would assist your workforce system to be more welcoming to job seekers with disabilities?

2. Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) local boards may establish standing committees geared to individuals with disabilities, including issues regarding Section 188 compliance and applicable ADA provisions, for providing programmatic and physical access to the services, programs, and activities of the AJC Network, as well as appropriate staff training on providing supports for/ accommodations to, and finding employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. What suggestions or concerns do you have about the establishment of such committees?
3. One ongoing challenge has been that individuals with disabilities, especially non-visible disabilities, opt not to self-identify when using general service delivery systems such as the public workforce system. With all programs moving to common intake, what suggestions do you have to get more job seekers to disclose their disability?
4. What are effective strategies that you have implemented to facilitate collaborative service delivery between the public workforce partners, including Vocational Rehabilitation, to leverage funds to provide workforce services to adults and youth with disabilities? What strategies do you suggest to overcome any challenges?
5. What opportunities and specific strategies do you see for the public workforce system to partner with independent living centers and other disability-related organizations?
6. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today?

Services to Disconnected Youth

Friday, September 5,
2:00 pm eastern

Register Now!

Discussion Questions

1. What delights you about the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)?
2. What opportunities do you see for youth under WIOA?
3. What is challenging for you about implementing the youth-related provisions in WIOA?
4. What can be improved for youth under WIOA?
5. What youth regulations might have been clearer under WIA and you would like to see them clarified under WIOA?
6. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today?

Strategic Program Alignment and Unified Planning

Thursday, September 11,
2:00 pm eastern

Register Now!

Discussion Questions

1. What opportunities do you see for strategic planning at the state and local/regional level under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)?

2. What concerns you about the unified and combined planning processes outlined in WIOA?
3. How can DOL and DoED support states to ensure that a comprehensive, partner-involved planning process yields a plan that has “vitality” for the two-year and four-year life and remains both a compass and a roadmap for all adult education and workforce development investments in the State?
4. What can DOL and DoED do to support states in the development of plans that:
 - Incorporate both strategy and alignment of operations across core programs and mandatory partners?
 - Ensure success and participation across a variety of stakeholders, state boards and mandatory One-Stop partners?
5. Ensure that formula and discretionary grants are viewed as complementary assets for workforce development?
6. What combination of technical assistance from DOL and Department of Education would be useful in benefitting the planning process and the development of the plan?
7. In recent WIA strategic planning cycles, States have submitted Plans in WORD and/or PDF versions to the ETA national office/regional offices and/or placed Plans on its server, providing ETA with the URL for purposes of a national Plan directory and links. Do have recommendations for improving the submission process, and once approved, suggestions for presenting the State Plan and its various content to partners, stakeholders and the public? Do technology or social media present opportunities for both Plan development and Plan dissemination?
8. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today?

WIOA and Registered Apprenticeship

Friday, September 12,
2:00 pm eastern

Register Now!

Discussion Questions

1. What challenges did you experience in integrating RA into public workforce system planning and policy under WIA (such as challenges related to state plans, board representation, employer engagement, or other provisions) that can be addressed under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)?
2. What concerns related to RA programs being on the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) have you had in the past that can be addressed under WIOA? What issues need to be considered in order to implement the new WIOA provision that includes RA programs on the ETPL?
3. What questions do you have about changes to the performance measures under WIOA and how RA can “count” towards performance outcomes? What type of performance measures would incentivize you to work with Registered Apprenticeship?
4. Do you see any challenges in using WIOA funds to support participation in RA?
5. Are there any issues specific to your state or local area that are barriers to better connecting RA with other workforce programs under WIOA and what would make those connections easier?
6. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today?

The Indian and Native American Program	Monday, September 15, 2:00 pm eastern	Register Now!
<p><u>Discussion Questions</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Indian and Native American program under WIOA remains a partner in the one-stop system to increase participants access to employment and training services from one-stop centers. What are the opportunities and challenges to improve access to quality services through one-stop centers that the Department should consider in developing guidance? 2. More broadly, what opportunities do you see for the Indian and Native American Program under WIOA? 3. What challenges does the Indian and Native American program face in implementing WIOA? 4. What are your ideas for the Department to consider in developing guidance for the program? 5. What is working well in the regulations now? 6. What is not working well in the regulations now? 7. How would you like to change them, keeping in mind the WIOA changes? 8. Is there anything else you want us to share with us today? 		